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It is a Poor Rule That Doesn't Work Both Ways.
We have plainly informed Germany that so far as the United States is concerned it is of no interest to us to be told that another belligerent has done as much or more to the injury of our neutral rights.
The same self-evident proposition is likewise to Great Britain. Sir EDWARD GREY'S notes invite it.
We have intimated to Germany, in a fashion of language permitting no misconception, that the attempt to justify an illegal act on the ground that it is done in reprisal for something as bad or worse done by Germany's enemies is in itself a confession of the illegality of such act, a valid warrant for protest on our part, and a sure foundation for our just claim to reparation.
The same self-evident proposition is due likewise to Great Britain. The several communications of the Foreign Office to our Ambassador PAGE invite a reply of that sort.
Germany's defence of submarine outrages was that they were necessary adaptations of naval warfare to modern conditions. We have told her, in substance, that modern conditions must be adapted to inalienable rights, not the reverse.
Great Britain's defence of her persistent invasion of our rights of non-contraband commerce with neutral ports is that her obstructive "measures" constitute nothing more than an adaptation of the old principle of blockade to the peculiar circumstances of this war.
A reply similar to that already made to Germany is due to Great Britain. The three notes published yesterday invite it.
The rule of inflexible neutrality, of friendly vigilance for the protection of American rights, of an even attitude toward the contending Powers, goes to pieces when it is unequally applied. We have no doubt that it will continue to be applied impartially by our Department of State. That is the way to keep America "uber Alles."

But what has become of Sir EDWARD GREY'S logic and his chronology when he offers the poisoning of wells in German Southwest Africa, the use of asphyxiating gases in Flanders, and in general "the shocking violations of the recognized rules and principles of civilized warfare of which Germany has been guilty during the present struggle," in justification of those discriminatory infractions of neutral rights against which the United States specifically and with good reason protests?
It is a poor rule that works only in the case of Germany.

The Artful Foss.
The Hon. EUGENE N. FOSS of Massachusetts would have no standing before a party convention under the old system. Republicans regard him as a turncoat and Democrats as a deserter. But with his great wealth and boundless audacity he is not to be deterred as a candidate at the primaries for Governor. He can obtain the necessary support to enter the lists, and there is no shrewder advertiser in Massachusetts. It must be admitted, too, that when a man has been Governor three terms he has some hold upon the imagination of the people.
Mr. Foss played a rather sharp game when he solicited CHARLES S. BIRD of Walpole to become a candidate for the Republican nomination.

Mr. Foss played a rather sharp game when he solicited CHARLES S. BIRD of Walpole to become a candidate for the Republican nomination. "It must be apparent to you, Mr. Bird," writes the wily Foss, "that in offering to support you I was attempting to interpret the popular will, and upon your declination I have determined myself to lead the popular movement." That is the way to keep America "uber Alles."

Manhattan Waits.
The Senator and his shining retinue were expected to wind the horn at Gotham's gates in July. Then the grand entry was put off to the second day of August. Now it is again deferred, in consideration of the heats of midsummer. Has the renown of this settlement as a summer resort never reached the ears of our estimable friends from up the State?
And does not the Senator, whose shadow heralds him so far in advance, does he not know that the protraction of anticipation is a detraction from the joys of realization? However, both the city administration that is to be "investigated" and the \$25,000 appropriated for the purposes of the investigations will keep.

Is the Senator quite wise in giving the arch rascais MITCHELL and MCANENY time to cover the trail of their iniquities?
An Unpleasant Reminder From the Summer Capital.
The Secretary of the Treasury was reported yesterday as saying at Cornish, New Hampshire: "The Democratic party is pledged to provide an adequate merchant marine for the United States. The need for more ships under American registry is being shown more and more every day." Thus Mr. McAbao.
This sort of talk from this source is either incredibly impudent or incredibly crafty. Addressed to the American people at this time, the utterance is a startling and unpleasant reminder.

It is impudent to accost American business men with talk of "providing an adequate fleet of merchant ships" when those we had have been driven to the shelter of alien registry. As a move in the Government ownership game, these remarks of the Secretary are so crafty they fall on their face. It is to be hoped there is no administrative significance in the fact that they were made "after a morning conference" with the President.

The Boomerang Straw Hat.
Genius knows no seasons. This is exemplified in the invention, as reported, of a boomerang straw hat when the season of cereal headgear is near the point of beginning to wane. The inventor is said to be a Connecticut man of an ingenious turn of mind, who, however, has done nothing else noteworthy in the way of invention except the devising of a shoe for the one-legged trade that fits the right foot with one side out and the left foot when turned the other side out.

As its name indicates the boomerang straw hat is designed to return to the head of the owner or thereabout at the close of its flight in a stiff puff of wind. In the suction of a passing automobile or in any other atmospheric disturbance. It is ascertained that after the hat has turned the apex of the loop its return is not retarded but is accelerated, as is the soaring of an eagle, by the pressure of the adverse current.

From the meagre descriptions at hand it is gathered that the brim of the boomerang hat is so fastened that when the hat leaps free from the head of the wearer the wind current gives it the whirling motion imparted to the boomerang as it leaves the hand of the Australian tribesman. The brim is said to be bent somewhat in the shape of a right hand two blade marine propeller wheel of about four inches diameter and eighteen degrees pitch. On leaving the head of the wearer the hat soars away, revolving horizontally for a greater or less distance, according to the impetus, poised for a moment at the extremity of the loop and returns to its owner's head or to a point within his easy reach.

Many advantages are claimed for the new boomerang straw hat. The most conspicuous perhaps is the elimination of the perils incident to chasing the ordinary summer hat as it skates along the asphalt of the avenue under the chassis of droves of automobiles coming and going. Had the maimed victim of such a pursuit been wearing a boomerang hat he would have stood still where it left him and perchance would have occupied himself with rolling and lighting a cigarette while the lid was coming back.

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A PROTECTIVE TARIFF.
Will Depend on the Success of the Allies in the Present War.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: One can well believe the report from Washington that the Department of Commerce is taking steps to protect the dye industry in this country, because we have little or no investment in Germany to be protected; but pity the manufacturer whose business conflicts with the commercial interests of England and France, for the interests of those nations are in common with that of our war merchants and their backers. The United States is a free market for the output of those countries.

We have tended toward a protective tariff because our financial welfare depends on the success of the Allies and their property after the war. The aim of those with foreign investments is to buy the most with their European money, and to get the most for their money. They get a large income from protected countries and get great service for her income by reason of free trade and the low wages of the present war.

If President Wilson is re-elected it will certainly be because of his handling of the present situation, whatever the outcome, but the real reason will be that he will have the backing of former protectors of American industries.
PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 20, M. P. C.

SCARCITY OF DYESTUFFS.
The Possibilities of America as a Field of Production.
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The scarcity of aniline coloring matters, as well as of tanning matters, the former due to the war in Europe, and the latter due to the very great demand, both domestic and foreign, shown during the past few months by the many inquiries received from various parts of Europe, asking not only for vegetable coloring matters but also for tanning matters.

Many of your readers may not be alive to the fact that particularly the States of Texas and New Mexico are rich in the production of aniline coloring matters as well as various vegetable coloring matters. Further, I think that many of the States of the Southwest, particularly Texas and New Mexico, are rich in the production of aniline coloring matters as well as various vegetable coloring matters.

There is nothing to which the phrase "safety first" applies better than it does to this situation. The convention should not be tampered with in any way. If it does the State will get the worst of it, no matter what safeguards they may throw around it. Let this be understood and it will force the backers of the movement to the front.

THE BUSINESS OF COLLEGE.
Are the Professors Turning Out a Product of Uniform Mediocrity?
To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The SUN has spoken and the college is vindicated. I do not know whether the editorial of yesterday was written by a college graduate, but if it was I should be willing to wager the little left me by hard times and harder creditors that he played a good game. The college football team, gained the additional honor of a Phi Beta Kappa key and left with his degree turned out for him at so much per annum in the money market.

"For the American college professor knows his business," and this education is a business at which we can be careful not to let the wind blow. The mediocre product as we might say, is not quite so useful if as unredressed by any graces. Still we are healthy wallowing animals, and nothing but sickly dilettantes can give us those graces and that refinement and that culture to gain which former and darker ages thought no discipline too severe.

Among the candidates for the United States Senatorship in Kansas is Mrs. E. K. BRUNES, now superintendent of the State Orphan Home at Atchison. In the event of her election Mrs. BRUNES would be the logical choice for Matron of the Senate.

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THE FORESTS IN DANGER.
Significance of a Movement in the Constitutional Convention.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In THE SUN recently appeared an article headed "Sharp Fight On to Save Forests." It cannot be doubted that there is a strongly organized movement under way to alter the State Constitution so that the Adirondacks will be thrown open to lumbermen. Behind it are lumbermen, many up-State politicians, also grafters who expect to get some of the crumbs dropped from the tables of the more important interests. The motives are obvious. Success would mean millions of dollars profit to the groups in the State who are interested in the destruction of the woods. It would mean life to broken down mills, which is one of the main objects; but outside of lumbering there are millions of dollars profit in the lumbering industry. You can find all through the woods at the present time a great number of small stores that really do an enormous business in this way, and the lumber operation there is a liquor business that has no excuse for existence but supplying the men who work in the woods.

In order to give a color of reason to the cause, the people interested in this movement have succeeded in enlisting the sympathies of a few people, whose integrity of purpose cannot be questioned, mainly on the plea that it will be better for the forest to be scientifically lumbered and the State will thereby derive a revenue. This might be true in this way, and the State might thereby derive a revenue. This might be true in this way, and the State might thereby derive a revenue.

Once goods are in Holland, Great Britain has no chance of keeping them from Germany, except the vigilance of Holland supplies it. Nor did you add that the United States without notice extended its blockading activity outside the defined area into areas not surrounding the land of the enemy. Thus a vessel of Great Britain was seized between Porto Rico and Culebra and was later condemned by the Supreme Court. So Great Britain has a precedent for declaring a blockade away from the enemy's littoral.

The only excuse the United States had for its exterior blockade was the inefficiency of that established along the enemy's coast. So also the only excuse Great Britain has is that she is unable to maintain a blockade along the immediate coast line of the enemy. It is not a "paper" blockade; it is a very successful and ironclad affair, but it has the same degree of invalidity as had that which the United States practically established in the West Indies during the war with the South.

I venture to disagree with you when you say that "the issues involve no practical probability of war," for there is a degree of madness in American civilization which makes many things possible. I left England many years ago, so I am not qualified to judge of the essential mental soundness of her people, but what I read and see leads me to believe that the British have a similar softening of the brain.

In Bayonne those who defended property are imprisoned, those who refused to defend it are threatened with imprisonment, those who assailed both it and the guardians of it are allowed to go scot free, because they do not speak English and must not be subjected to the spiritual degradation of imprisonment, as Miss K. B. Davis would say. In war, then, the British should be jailed, the American people with difficulty pardoned, and the Germans, who are not to be blamed for not knowing better, should be allowed to do as they please. The punishment should be in the inverse order of deserving. However, let me add that I am disposed to be lenient and neutral in the Bayonne affair, for I believe there are reasons to justify the actions of the British people, the police, the Rockefeller deputies, the policemen who refused to do their duty, and also Sheriff Kinkaid, who alternately neglected and exceeded the duties of his office.

Being a human monstrosity, a hyphenated American, I sign myself with apologies.
AN ANGLO-AMERICAN.
BROOKLYN, AUGUST 2.

A Protest Against the British Foreign Policy.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I call your attention to the book of Mr. G. H. PERRIS, "Liberty and Empire," printed in 1912, entitled "Our Foreign Policy: Sir Edward Grey's Failure." In it Mr. Perris, well known to all interested in the foreign policy of the United States, clearly outlines the British policy of the "encirclement" of Germany, the prevention of any European friendships and the fostering of alliances for war, and credits this war as an inevitable result of that policy.

This book is only one of innumerable protests from the best Englishmen against the ruinous policy of the British Government, which went into this war first (its navy being the first mobilized of any arm of warfare of any of the nations) because it thought it was prepared, and would, with its allies, be triumphant in a few months.

Suggestion for a New Use of the Speedway.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: While your correspondent "D" has advocated a fairer distribution of speedway favor to the Automobile Club of America, the automobilists, he is still a pleader for only a class of our citizens, a class too whom from its possession of motor cars virtually has the entire country at its disposal. By all means let the automobile be used for pleasure, and along with it any other form of pleasure vehicle, but even then you have not accomplished much when you consider the millions whose only conveyances are shank's mare, the subway or the surface lines. Why not give these a chance?

With the beginning of cold weather let the virtually unused speedway, commencing at the 155th street viaduct, be transformed into a grand coasting ground for the use of the poor population, whether colored or otherwise, returning. Should it be "fewer"? Is not "less" used when bulk or mass is considered?
DAILY RABBIT.
NEW YORK, AUGUST 4.

The Summer School of Grammar.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In THE SUN's English correct in the despatch from South Africa, a good deal is said of the effects of a "Jersey cloudburst." You say: "No less than twenty-three automobiles had to be abandoned." "No less than three county bridges were washed away." Should it be "fewer"? Is not "less" used when bulk or mass is considered?
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THE ISSUE WITH ENGLAND.
Intelligent Discussion of the Precedents of Our Own Civil War.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Thank you for your editorial article on "The Issue With England." It clearly represents the facts relative to the United States protest. Yet there are several points which lack of space forbids you to mention but which complete the case of Great Britain. That nation cannot enforce a blockade in the Baltic except by violating the neutrality of Sweden or Denmark. This she may not do. The United States might have sustained the freedom of the seas by taking Nassau; Great Britain might sustain that freedom by entering Holland, but blockading is considered a more defensible action. Similarly blockading the Baltic from the outside is more in accord with precedent than entering the Baltic, which cannot be invaded without a violation of neutrality. The North in the civil war did not blockade the line of the Rio Grande.

You did not mention that Great Britain has limited her blockade to the area defined by her, while the United States most justifiably went outside and took British ships. You did not say that England had no means of redress but to take ships on their way to neutrals, whereas the United States could hold up the transit of goods when they reached the blockaded area and did not absolutely have to propound the celebrated "continuous voyage" doctrine and seize ships on the way to Nassau.

Once goods are in Holland, Great Britain has no chance of keeping them from Germany, except the vigilance of Holland supplies it. Nor did you add that the United States without notice extended its blockading activity outside the defined area into areas not surrounding the land of the enemy. Thus a vessel of Great Britain was seized between Porto Rico and Culebra and was later condemned by the Supreme Court. So Great Britain has a precedent for declaring a blockade away from the enemy's littoral.

The only excuse the United States had for its exterior blockade was the inefficiency of that established along the enemy's coast. So also the only excuse Great Britain has is that she is unable to maintain a blockade along the immediate coast line of the enemy. It is not a "paper" blockade; it is a very successful and ironclad affair, but it has the same degree of invalidity as had that which the United States practically established in the West Indies during the war with the South.

I venture to disagree with you when you say that "the issues involve no practical probability of war," for there is a degree of madness in American civilization which makes many things possible. I left England many years ago, so I am not qualified to judge of the essential mental soundness of her people, but what I read and see leads me to believe that the British have a similar softening of the brain.

In Bayonne those who defended property are imprisoned, those who refused to defend it are threatened with imprisonment, those who assailed both it and the guardians of it are allowed to go scot free, because they do not speak English and must not be subjected to the spiritual degradation of imprisonment, as Miss K. B. Davis would say. In war, then, the British should be jailed, the American people with difficulty pardoned, and the Germans, who are not to be blamed for not knowing better, should be allowed to do as they please. The punishment should be in the inverse order of deserving. However, let me add that I am disposed to be lenient and neutral in the Bayonne affair, for I believe there are reasons to justify the actions of the British people, the police, the Rockefeller deputies, the policemen who refused to do their duty, and also Sheriff Kinkaid, who alternately neglected and exceeded the duties of his office.

Being a human monstrosity, a hyphenated American, I sign myself with apologies.
AN ANGLO-AMERICAN.
BROOKLYN, AUGUST 2.

Should the Publicity Regarding Executions Be Permitted?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Deputy Warden Johnson of Sing Sing was reported in THE SUN as being opposed to capital punishment and as favoring the abolition of the death penalty. The execution of sentences as the surest way of focussing public attention upon what he regards as the barbarity of the system.

I presume that I am only one of many who have been thoroughly disgusted with the gruesome stories which the public press publishes in connection with the execution which took place at Ossining on July 30. I can conceive of no good result which may be gained by publishing such tales. Certain it is to my mind that the result which is least of all to be desired is that the public mind be so conditioned that the system is not "barbarous," but that such accounts as appeared in the papers of Friday and Saturday, and the sensational feeding of such minutiae to the public, which public is what makes the system, necessary and logical in itself, appear barbarous. It is what casts the system in the public mind, and is, therefore, inclined, as each of us more or less is, into its reputation. Mr. Johnson favors the only evil connected with the system as a means of rooting out the system itself.

The only objection to capital punishment, as administered in this State, is the publication of hideous and disgusting details concerning executions. In no other civilized country on the globe today would such reports be permitted either by law or by public opinion, to appear in the public prints. It is surprising that there is no law in this State prohibiting the detailed accounts of executions. In the interest of morals and decency one is much obliged.

Pair of Shoes Worth 700 Babies.

From the Lexington Leader.
A unique and interesting relic in the shoe store of a certain shoe dealer in the city of Lexington was presented to the Lexington Historical Society at Lexington yesterday by Colonel William A. Merrill. The shoes were made by Colonel Merrill's great-grandfather, and have been worn by three generations of the Merrill family, his great-grandfather, his grandfather and himself, since the beginning of their career in the Revolutionary War. The shoes were made in 1780, and were worn by Colonel Merrill when he served with General Washington in the War of the Revolution, until the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. The shoes have been placed on the shelves of the Merrill family. They have travelled through seven States and have been returned from Texas only a few days ago, when they were placed on the shelves of the Merrill family. They will be returned to the collection of relics in the Museum of the Historical Society at Lexington.

Kansas's Hard Luck.

From the Howard County.
Some people have curious fancies. Last week we came to the State of Kansas, and a pleasant, restful day in the State chair. The D. D. S. finished up in two hours, and the balance of the time we suffered in silence at the chautauque.

THE ORDUNA CASE.
Call From an Eminent Jurist for the Dudley Field Malone Report.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Some time ago we read a narrative concerning the steamship Orduna; it came from British sources and was not sworn to by any one. At that time a Lusitania letter was sent to the Administration very wisely decided to investigate the story, and every one acquiesced in this being done; no one bothered about making further inquiries then. The newspapers informed us that the investigation was confined to Mr. Dudley Field Malone, Collector of the Port, and that he had collected it and forwarded affidavits to Washington. That was some weeks ago. Meanwhile the Lusitania letter was slipped off the stocks and crossed the sea; the last, let us hope, in a correspondence which at one time looked as if it might continue "during the war." Now may we not know the result of Mr. Malone's investigation?

If it shows the fact to be that a submarine fired a shot across the Orduna's bow to bring her to and that subsequent proceedings resulted from her failure to heed that well recognized warning of the sea, it seems hardly fair to the Germans not to disclose the fact. If on the contrary what was said was that a submarine did not charge a torpedo at the Orduna without warning and that the incident differed from that of the Lusitania only in the two particulars (1) that the marksmanship was poor and (2) that the Orduna, an unarmed passenger steamer, was bound away from England for this port with no munitions of war aboard, then we may not be allowed to know this?

If there be a third alternative; if the Administration, emulating the example of the belligerent countries, has concluded that, so far as it can, it will let us be informed only of such matters as it thinks we ought to know, then may we not be informed of such conclusions? It is a new departure, because our statesmen and our spellbinders are continually telling us that the "people" of this country can always be trusted to do the right thing under all circumstances.

For the gratification of our, perhaps idle, curiosity it may be hoped that when Congress does meet, one house or the other will call for the Malone report. Meanwhile, if some enterprising journalist, like your own, would apply in the proper quarters to be allowed to copy and publish such report, we might have some enlightenment. If the request were refused, one might make a reasonably accurate guess at what the report discloses.
NEW YORK, AUGUST 4. E. H. L.

POWER OF PERSONALITY.
Prison Reforms Should Be Discussed at Albany, Not Ossining.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Permit me to direct a word of inquiry to